

# National Average Annual Household Energy Expenditures and RUS Extremely High Energy Cost Eligibility Benchmarks

(Revised 3/23/05)

## AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE

| <u>Fuel</u>                | National annual average<br>household expenditure<br><u>\$ per year</u> | Extremely high energy cost<br>benchmark<br><u>\$ per year</u> |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Electricity                | \$938  | \$2,509   |
| Natural Gas                | \$702  | \$1,859   |
| Fuel Oil                   | \$737  | \$1,882   |
| LPG/Propane                | \$605  | \$1,514   |
| Total Household Energy Use | \$1,493  | \$4,013   |

## ANNUAL AVERAGE PER UNIT RESIDENTIAL ENERGY COSTS

| <u>Fuel (units)</u>                   | National average unit<br>cost<br><u>\$ per unit</u> | Extremely high energy cost<br>benchmark<br><u>\$ per unit</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Electricity (kilowatt hours)          | \$0.088   | \$0.239   |
| Natural Gas (thousand cubic feet)     | \$9.98  | \$26.85   |
| Fuel Oil (gallons)                    | \$1.24  | \$3.35  |
| LPG/Propane (gallons)                 | \$1.36  | \$3.61  |
| Total Household Energy (million Btus) | \$16.19   | \$43.91   |

Sources: United States Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, Residential Energy Consumption and Expenditure Surveys 2001, available online at <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/contents.html>. The RUS benchmarks are set at 275percent of the national average and include adjustments to reflect the uncertainties inherent in EIA's statistical methodology for estimating home energy costs. The benchmarks are set based on the EIA's lower range estimates using the specified EIA methods.

Btus = British thermal units